

Message Text

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53

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01 OIC-02 /130 W

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R 051639Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2628

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, PERSONS AND QUACKENBUSH

POUCHED TO: ADDIS ABABA, BEIRUT, COLOMBO, COPENHAGEN, DAKAR,
HELSINKI, JOHANNESBURG, KINSHASA, KUALA LUMPUR, LAGOS, LISBON,
MELBOURNE, MONTEVIDEO, NAIROBI, TEL AVIV, TUNIS.

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO

SUBJ: ILO WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE: THIRD SESSION, APRIL 28 -
MAY 3, 1975

1. SUMMARY. NOTING PROGRESS ON ISSUES OF COMPOSITION OF GOVERN-
ING BODY AND AMENDMENT PROCESS (SEE PARA 2 BELOW) WORKING PARTY
(WP) RECOMMENDED THAT 60TH ILO CONFERENCE (1) AUTHORIZE WP TO
CONTINUE ITS WORK IN 1975-76 AND (2) THAT IT POSTPONE DISCUSSION
OF WP REPORT UNTIL REPORT IS FINISHED (PRESUMABLY BY 61ST CONFER-
ENCE IN JUNE 1976). HOWEVER, DESPITE CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT (IN-
CLUDING US DEL AND WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS GROUPS) WP REPORT DID NOT
RECOMMEND THAT CONFERENCE REFRAIN FROM SETTING UP COMMITTEE ON
STRUCTURE AND WP ALSO LEFT ITSELF OPTION OF MEETING NEXT MONTH
DURING CONFERENCE; THUS POSSIBILITY REMAINS OF A DEBATE ON STRUC-
TURE IN THE POLITICALLY CHARGED ATMOSPHERE OF 60TH SESSION OF CON-
FERENCE. WP REPORT AS IT NOW STANDS COVERS ONLY A FEW OF NUMER-
OUS STRUCTURAL ISSUES AND IS BINDING ONLY ON WP MEMBERS FOR PUR-
POSE OF NEGOTIATING REMAINING ISSUES. WHEN WP COMPLETS "PACKAGE,"
ILO CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO GIVE ITS APPROVAL BEFORE LEGAL PRO-
CESS OF AMENDMENT COULD BEGIN. END SUMMARY.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF WP REPORT (FINAL VERSION WILL BE POUCHED WHEN
AVAILABLE): A. ON COMPOSITION OF GB (ARTICLE 7) WP PROPOSED THAT
SIZE OF GB SHOULD BE INCREASED TO 64 TITULAR MEMBERS, THAT THERE
BE NO INCREASE IN GOVERNMENT DEPUTY MEMBERS AND NO CHANGE IN THE
NUMBER OF NON-ELECTIVE SEATS. B. ON THE AMENDMENT PROCESS (ARTI-
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CLE 36), WP RECOMMENDED THAT THE PROVISION CALLING FOR RATIFICA-
TION BY FIVE STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE BE DELETED AND
PROPOSED SEVERAL SAFEGUARD FORMULAE ON AMENDMENTS RELATING TO KEY
ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION (PREAMBLE, ARTICLES 1, 3, 7, 17 AND
19-37). THESE KEY ARTICLES WOULD REQUIRE RATIFICATION BY THREE-
FOURTHS OF THE MEMBERS; THE WP PROPOSED TWO FORMULAE FOR CONFERENCE
APPROVAL WHICH GO BEYOND THE TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY THAT WOULD BE NE-
CESSARY FOR AMENDMENT OF REST OF CONSTITUTION. FIRST FORMULA

CALLS FOR APPROVAL BY A THREE-FOURTHS MAJORITY OF THE CONFERENCE;
ALTERNATIVE FORMULA WOULD REQUIRE A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY INCLUDING EITHER ONE-THIRD OR ONE-FOURTH OF EACH OF THE THREE GROUPS.
C. NOTEWORTHY WAS WP RECOMMENDATION THAT WHEN CONFERENCE ACCEPTED ITS PROPOSALS, IT SHOULD DECLARE TEN YEAR MORATORIUM ON CONSIDERATION OF FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS OF STRUCTURE.

3. AS IN JANUARY SESSION OF WP, ALMOST ALL INITIATIVES CAME IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES OF GROUP OF 77 (VENEZUELA, IRAN, ALGERIA, PAKISTAN, SIERRA LEONE AND MEXICO) AND THOSE OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES (ITALY, CANADA, UK, BELGIUM, JAPAN AND US). DEMAND BY 77 FOR ABOLITION OF STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE TAKEN BY OTHER MEMBERS OF WP AS BREACH OF GOOD FAITH AND OF AGREEMENTS REACHED IN JANUARY, AND RESULTED IN RECESS OF PLENARY SESSIONS FOR ALMOST THREE DAYS. DURING THIS PERIOD INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS PRODUCED PROPOSALS IN PARA 2 ABOVE. TEN YEAR MORATORIUM WAS SUGGESTED BY 77 AND ACCEPTED BY OTHERS AS FACE SAVING DEVICE FOR 77. REPRESENTATIVES OF 77 INSIST THAT CONCEPT OF STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE IS UNACCEPTABLE TO THEM AND SAID THEY WILL PRESS FOR AMENDMENT AT END OF MORATORIUM.

4. COMMENT: BOTH SIDES SEEM SATISFIED WITH WP PROPOSALS SO FAR AND WITH WP AS FORUM FOR NEGOTIATION OF COMPLEX AND DIFFICULT ISSUES IN STRUCTURAL REFORM OF ILO. TESTIMONY TO LATTER OCCURRED WHEN BRAZEN ATTEMPT OF 77 TO OVERTURN JANUARY AGREEMENTS (PARA 3 ABOVE) WAS OVERLOOKED. 77 SKILLFULLY PLAYED ON FEAR OF CONSERVATIVES OF SPECIAL CONFERENCE SESSION DEVOTED TO STRUCTURE PROBLEMS BY SUGGESTING THIS OCCASIONALLY. ALSO NOTEWORTHY IS DESIRE OF CANADIANS AND ITALIANS TO PRESERVE THEIR SHAKY POSITIONS BY PLAYING ALONG WITH LDC DESIRE FOR MORE SEATS ON GB. UK APPARENTLY HAS SIMILAR CONCERN, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR US AND JAPANESE TO ARGUE PERSUASIVELY AGAINST ENLARGEMENT OF GOVERNING BODY AND AGAINST PROPOSALS FOR GREATER REGIONAL AUTONOMY IN SELECTION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES ON GB.ABRAMS

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